August 20, 1998

RE: 21 CFR Part 101/Docket #98N-0044

Michael Friedman, MD, Lead Deputy Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
12420 Parklawn Drive, Rm 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

'98 AUG 26 P4:54

Dr. Friedman:

I am astonished and angered that the FDA would consider going against the intent of the DSHEA Act of 1994 regarding functional foods and nutritional supplements.

Although I agree that there must be some standardization of the supplement and herbal industry to ensure high quality of products manufactured and to ensure that proper labeling and advertising (use of functional claims) is utilized, moving toward a CODEX scenario is not the answer in the land of freedom that is America. The DSHEA legislation covers these areas fairly and sufficiently. Proper information on the use and benefits of supplements can have a major impact in improving the health and lives of millions of Americans, thereby saving the country untold millions in health costs for our aging population.

Keep the intent of DSHEA as it was meant to be when passed.

It is decidedly 'un-American" to limit information about dietary supplements and health, and therefor I ask that the FDA withdraw its' draconian proposal to redefine disease (aging? pregnancy?) in a way that would limit health information and freedom to make informed decisions.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Macchi

2205 Centre St

West Roxbury MA 02132

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